



OPINION

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PCC Expansion Brings Opportunity to Community

Goal to become a full-service campus has been a long time coming

BY DR. MILDRED OLLEE

In November 2000, the citizens of the Portland Community College district passed PCC's \$144 million bond measure that would, in part, greatly improve the educational offerings and facilities at the Cascade Campus. Its passage brings center stage the dream of a full-service campus for the residents of north and northeast Portland.

In voter precincts nearby the Cascade Campus, approximately 74 percent approved the college's plans to expand — by any count, a landslide.

The college, in partnership with the community, is moving ahead to bring upgraded and new facilities to the aging Cascade Campus, more classrooms and laboratories to serve students.

The goal to be a full-service campus has been a long time coming. The dream began in 1969 with the Model Cities program when PCC received money from HUD to purchase the former Cascade Bible College and open an educational center. In 1970, 400 students enrolled. By next fall, the enrollment had doubled. The campus has been steadily growing ever



Dr. Mildred Ollee

Frankly, change can be difficult and challenging, for the neighborhood and for the college. However, it is gratifying to learn that a number of the residents and several businesses that have worked with our relocation experts are very satisfied with their new homes or properties.

since.

In 1987, the PCC board of directors declared that Cascade would become fully comprehensive—students could obtain an associate's degree without the need for travel across the city to another site to complete a degree.

In the last four years, the enrollment has exploded at Cascade Campus, growing by 55 percent. In 2001, the campus served 17,000 full- and part-time students. In fact, one science lab served 1,500 general biology students last year. The campus schedules classes nights and weekends, but still can't meet the growing need. The professional music and developmental education programs hold classes in portable trailers, barely meeting the city fire marshal's code for overcrowding. Campus expansion is sorely needed. New

facilities will allow the campus to enroll some 5,000 full-time-equivalent students, or more than 20,000 full- and part-time students.

The college has worked closely with the neighborhood, particularly the Humboldt

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PCC Should Help Restore Albina Christian Ministry

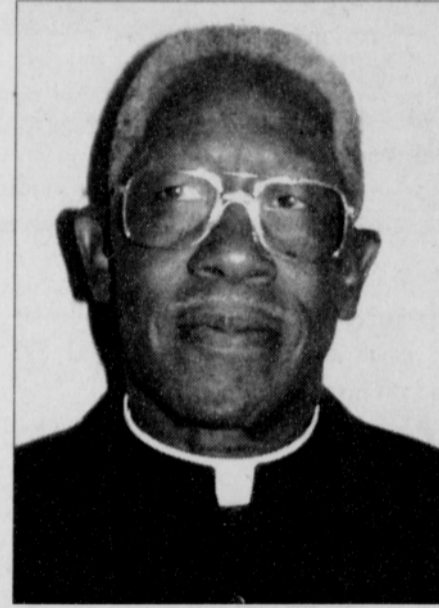
Church faces horrendous task of moving, renovating new site

BY BISHOP SAMUEL M. IRVING

The Albina Christian Life Center, a cross-cultural church in a low-income area has been ministering at its location for more than 30 years serving street people, children, youth and elderly of all races. It has never been a high-budgeted church.

When this ministry was disrupted by the threat of the Portland Community College's eminent domain process 10 years ago, we wondered where we could relocate to continue this ministry and its purpose. We asked PCC to "find another location," and we were told "We will relocate you and you will be as well or better off than you are now."

Each time we found a location, mostly out of the community, it was too expensive. We finally found an accommodative property that can keep us in the community. It is located at 2149 N. Willamette Blvd. One look at this property by the college, and we were told it was larger than our current church, and perhaps the college could find another suitable property or build a church. Neither option was given credence.



Bishop Samuel Irving

PCC made an offer on our property of \$500,000 which represented \$42 per square foot — the very quote of an appraisal they promised not to negotiate from. We were very dissatisfied with the low appraisal and we knew our property was worth more, based on the comparative studies.

satisfied with the low appraisal and we knew our property was worth more, based on the comparative studies. We were told that we could accept the \$500,000, or they could by

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On our own, we opened negotiations with the property owners of the Willamette Boulevard site.

PCC asked to be permitted to appraise our current property for information only and said it would not be a factor in the negotiations. The appraisal came back at the lowest possible finding of \$42 per square foot. Comparative studies had like properties going at an average of \$72 — \$76 per square foot. When final negotiations began, we requested of PCC not one dollar beyond what it would require to relocate us and restore the ministry, which was our only purpose for existence.

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